

Tankerton Bay Sailing Club

Sailing Instructions

1. RULES

- 1.1. The racing shall be governed by *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS), current issue, the prescriptions of the Royal Yachting Association (RYA), the appropriate class rules, Canterbury City Council Water Safety Rules and these Sailing Instructions. In the event of conflict, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

2. ENTRIES

- 2.1. **Eligibility and entry:** Members of Tankerton Bay Sailing Club may take part in races and series of races organised by the club. Visitors who are members of an RYA recognised Sailing Club and are signed in to the TBSC visitors book may take part but will not be scored in club series. Entrants shall complete the declaration (signing on) sheet in the TBSC club house before going afloat to race.
- 2.2. **Entry fees:** There are no fees for racing in club series.
- 2.3. **Insurance cover: All craft under the aegis of the Club must bear and maintain third party insurance to the minimum of £2,000,000.00**
- 2.4. Any boat racing must maintain the same format of helm, sails and crew for an entire series. A helm can still choose which format (where there is a suitable handicap) but it must be maintained per series. This is to ensure fairness across the series. If the usual crew becomes unavailable, then a deputy crew can be arranged by permission of the Race Officer of the day or a member of the Sailing Secretary Team/Committee. An oral agreement is acceptable for any requests.

3. SAFETY

- 3.1. **Personal responsibility:** Neither the provision of support boats and crews, nor the decision of a Race Officer to start or continue a race shall absolve a boat of the personal responsibilities as defined in the above stated RRS, under Part 1 / FUNDAMENTAL RULES, rules 1 and 4.
- 3.2. **Personal buoyancy:** competitors must wear personal buoyancy jackets all times afloat. Wetsuits and drysuits are not personal buoyancy and will not satisfy this instruction.
- 3.3. **Support boat cover:** Competitors shall comply promptly with directions from support boats. This may include abandoning a boat and boarding the support boat if persons are at risk.
- 3.4. **All Competitors:** Will assist with the launch and recovery of the support boat.
- 3.5. **Shipping:** Boats shall keep well clear of shipping at all times, wherever it may be.
- 3.6. **Water and beach users:** It is the responsibility of all sailors to keep at least three boat lengths away from any person using the water in the sailing area, whether these are people on the water (paddleboards, kayaks etc.) or swimming in the water. Water users are considered to be an 'obstruction', allowing sailors to request 'room to tack'. At no time should a boat be sailed in between the groynes, unless entering or returning to the beach.

- 3.7. **Busy Beach:** If the Sailing Committee see that the beach and water area is heavily populated then the following alterations to races will be made:
- Starts will be on the normal start line but will be between an imaginary line in-between the red and green buoy and the Outer Distance Marker.
 - Finish lines will involve sailing around the red or green buoys and keeping four boat lengths from shoreline when crossing the finish line.
 - Courses will be set further out to sea, to avoid sailors sailing close to shore.
 - Races will be 'back to back'.

4. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 4.1. Permanent notices to Competitors will be posted on the Sailing Notice Board in the clubhouse at least one hour before the start of the first race affected and remain there as long as they are in effect.
- 4.2. Where applicable, copies of such notices will also be available on the club website
- 4.3. Temporary notices relating to one day will be posted on the Course Board in the clubhouse at least ten minutes before the first Warning Signal of the day.

5. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 5.1. Permanent changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the Sailing Notice Board at least one hour before the start of the first race affected and remain there as long as they are in effect.
- 5.2. Such changes will also be made available on the club website www.tbsc.co.uk, under the section 'On the Water'.
- 5.3. Temporary changes to the Sailing Instructions relating to one day will be posted on the course board in the clubhouse at least ten minutes before the first Warning Signal of the day.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

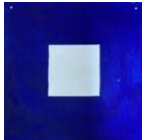
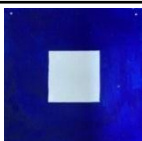
- 6.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the clubhouse mast.

7. SCHEDULE OF RACES

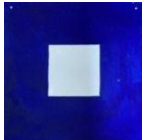
- 7.1. **Series racing:** The schedule of races is shown in Dutyman on the club website.
- 7.2. All scheduled races are either all-in or catamarans and dinghies in separate races.

8. CLASS FLAGS

8.1. Race Start Sequence 'All In' Races

1 minute preparatory signal to the beginning of the start sequence. (no hooter)	
9 minutes to start (hooter)->	
6 minutes to start (hooter) ->	
3 minutes to start (hooter) this flag removed - >	
Start of race this flag removed ->	

8.2. Race Start Sequence 'Split' Races

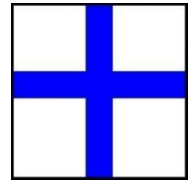
1 minute preparatory signal to the beginning of the start sequence. (no hooter)	
9 minutes signal (hooter)->	
6 minutes signal (hooter)->	
3 minutes signal (hooter) The start of the catamaran racing) - >	
0 minutes signal (hooter) The start of the dinghy racing) ->	

9. INDIVIDUAL AND GENERAL RECALLS

9.1. **Individual Recall** (one Sound Signal) and flag

9.2. The Individual Recall Flag advises sailors that one or more identified boats

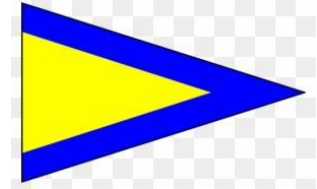
9.3. started prematurely and must return to the Start Line to start correctly. If they continue to race without re-Starting, they will be marked as On Course Side (OCS) of the Starting Line and will be penalised according to the Sailing Instructions.



9.4. **General Recall** (two sound signals) and flag

9.5. The start sequence will start once all boats have sailed back to the start line.

9.6. In a split series, there will be no General Recall for the slow handicap fleet due to the clock being needed to time the fast handicap fleet.



10. RACING AREA

10.1. The racing area is in the Thames Estuary to the north of TBSC.

10.2. The marked swimming area is out of bounds and any boat entering it should retire from the race. It is considered a 'continuing obstruction', allowing sailors to request 'room to tack'.

11. THE COURSE

11.1. Course diagram: This will be displayed on the Course Board in the TBSC clubhouse.

11.2. Marks: The marks of the course will be described on the Course Board in TBSC clubhouse.

11.3. Briefing: will be 20 minutes before the scheduled start time.

11.4. Course change: If series races are taking place, then at least one course change should be made during the day's racing, to ensure no advantage is gained by any one type of craft.

12. THE START

12.1. There are different start sequences for 'All in' race series (catamarans and dinghies sailing together) and 'Split' race series (catamarans and dinghies sailing separately).

12.2. No part of a boat's hull shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before the starting signal.

12.3. Club start line: The starting line will be a line projected seaward from the club house through the Shore Transit Marks and limited to seaward by the Outer Distance Mark (ODM). Boats shall start between the shore and the ODM. The ODM is not necessarily on the transit line. The line definition may be varied by temporary instructions (see 4 above).

12.4. Starting Time limits: A boat shall not start later than 5 minutes after its class-starting signal.

12.5. If flag I is displayed then RRS Rule 30.1 is operational and OCS boats must restart by crossing the start line with any part of their boat.

13. THE FINISH

13.1. **Club finish line:** The finishing line will be between the clubhouse line projected seaward from the club house through the Shore Transit Marks and limited to seaward by the Outer Distance

Mark (ODM). The ODM is not part of the finishing line definition and not a mark of the course unless otherwise designated.

14. TIME LIMIT

- 14.1. The time limit for all club races will be 30 minutes after the first finisher for 30-minute timed races, 60 minutes after the first finisher for 1 hour or more timed races. Boats failing to finish within the relevant time limit will be scored as “Did Not Finish”. This amends RRS Rule 35.

15. BACK-TO-BACK RACES

- 15.1. On days when 3 races are scheduled or when the time window for racing may be constrained by tide or weather forecast, there may be a decision to run races ‘back-to-back’, i.e., no return to shore between races. In which case instructions will be displayed on the course board.
- 15.2. When the last boat finishes the current race, 2 long “10 second” blasts of the klaxon will be sounded.
- 15.3. 1 minute after that the start sequence will commence, to begin the next race.

16. MULTIPLE BOATS AND REDRESS FOR DUTY

- 16.1. Owners with more than one boat, who may wish to, or end up using both boats during any Race Series, must elect before the Series starts, to which boat they wish to apply any redress points they may acquire as a result of performing a ‘race duty’ during any of the races in that Series.

17. PROTESTS

- 17.1. Protests: Protests and claims for redress shall be written on Protest forms available from the Race Officer and shall be delivered there within 45 minutes after the time of the last boat finishing the last race of the day. *Please bear in mind that if you were to lodge a protest form it would be the first in living memory at TBSC.*
- 17.2. Advisory Hearings: If you are concerned that there may have been a breach of the rules, you may prefer an informal consultation with a member of the Sailing Committee, who could, if required, arbitrate and offer advice on the rules.
- 17.3. Protest hearings: A member of the Committee will arrange Protest hearings and protests will be heard in the order of receipt as soon as possible

18. SCORING SYSTEM

- 18.1. The Low Point scoring system, RRS, Appendix A 4.1, will apply.

19. HAVING FUN

- 19.1. It is in the club’s interest that all sailors participating in scheduled races should enjoy themselves and keep in mind that maybe not all competitors have the same standard of experience or skill. If a sailor is found to be miserable or using defamatory language during a race, the committee may ask that sailor to retire from races until they cheer up...!!